

REMARKS

All the claims currently in this application have been rejected on substantive grounds. Applicant has amended his claims and respectfully submits that all the claims currently in this application are patentable over the rejection of record.

Claims 1, 6-12, 17 and 18, all the claims currently in this application, stand rejected, under 35 C.F.R. § 102(b), as been anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,800,952 to Urano et al.

The Official Action argues that Urano et al. teaches a photopolymerizable composition containing a photopolymerization initiator system which comprises a polymeric binder, photoactive component and an organic acid non-polymerizable with the polymeric binder. The Official Action further submits that the polymeric binder, photoactive component and the organic acid of Urano et al. are within the contemplation of the definitions of those terms in the claims of the present application.

The Official Action, however, admits that the Urano et al. photopolymerization initiator system includes a thiazole-containing compound which is not included in the independent claims, Claims 1, 12 and 18, from which all of the remaining claims depend, of the present application. However, the Official Action argues, Claims 1, 12, and 18 of the present application use the transitional phrase “comprising” and thus do not exclude the presence of the material component, a thiazole-containing compound.

Applicant has amended his claims so that independent Claims 1, 12, and 18 include the exclusionary transitional phrase -- consisting essentially of -- which replace the open-ended

transitional phrase “comprising.” As such, the presence of the material component, a thiazole-containing compound, is excluded from the contemplation of all the claims of the present application. Thus, all the claims of the present application, the photoresist composition of Claims 1, 6 and 8-11, the method of enhancing the removal of photoresist composition from a substrate of Claims 12 and 17 and the method of manufacturing a printed wiring board of Claim 18, are all novel, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), over Urano et al.

In regard to applicant’s earlier remarks, arguing that Urano et al. teaches away from utilizing oxalic and phthalic acid in photopolymerizable composition, applicant’s arguments are now effective insofar as the aforementioned remarks establish that Urano et al. does not anticipate any of the amended claims of the present application. Applicant thus reiterates his earlier remarks that Urano et al. teaches away from utilizing an oxalic acid or a phthalic acid in photopolymerizable compositions. Therefore, any hypothetical rejection under 35 C.F.R. § 103(a) over Urano et al. is also obviated.

Applicant submits that the admission of the present amendment, after final rejection, is appropriate because the present amendment places the present application in better condition for allowance. Insofar as entrance of the present amendment is appropriate, such action is respectfully urged.

The above amendment and remarks establish the patentable nature of all the claims currently in this application. Notice of Allowance and passage to issue of these claims, Claims 1, 6-12, 17 and 18, is therefore respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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